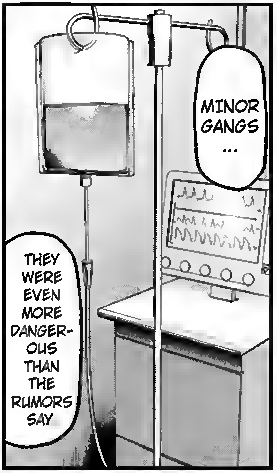
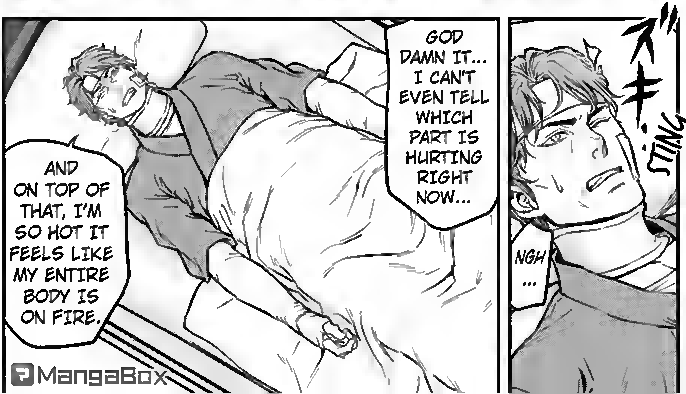
STORY: KIMIO YANAGISAWA
ART: YOUSUKE MORI
TRANSLATION BY JENNIFER J. WARD
ADAPTATION BY ALEXANDRA E. SWANSON
YKS SERVICES LLC/SKY JAPAN, INC




AND ON TOP OF THAT, I'M SO HOT IT FEELS LIKE MY ENTIRE BODY IS ON FIRE.
GOD DAMN IT... I CAN'T EVEN TELL WHICH PART IS HURTING RIGHT NOW...
NGH ...
ズキ STING

MangaBox

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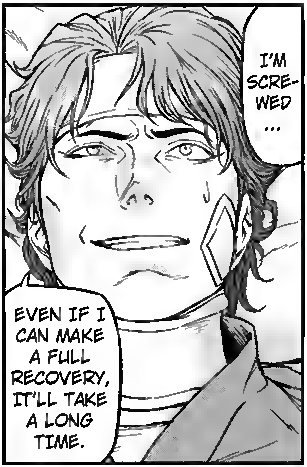
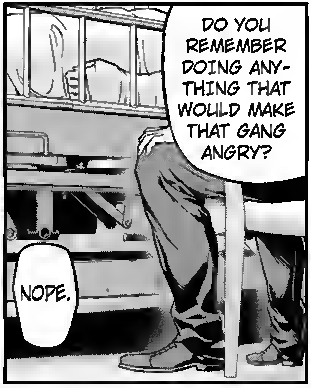




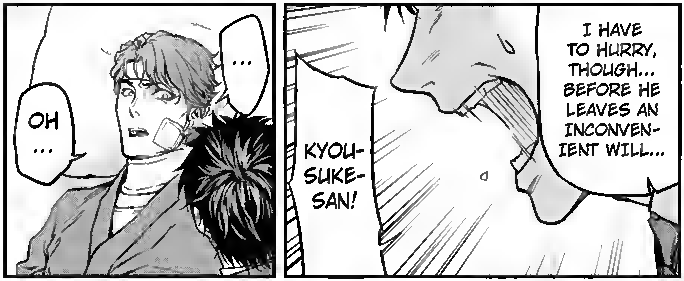
...
HUH?
MY DAD COULDN'T HAVE HAD ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT THIS TIME.
IT WASN'T HIM.
I WAS TRYING TO COMPETE WITH A TEN-YEAR-OLD KID FOR SUCCESSOR, BUT...
HOW IRONIC... NOW THAT I'M FLAT ON MY BACK, I CAN FINALLY THINK CLEARLY.
THE OLD MAN MADE DIVISION CHIEF YOSHIDA HIS SEAT-WARMER A LONG TIME AGO.
I WAS TILTING AT WIND-MILLS.

HOLD ON A SE-COND!
GRAPE
IF HE GETS TOO OLD BEFORE THEN, LOYAL OLD YOSHIDA WILL JUST HANDLE THE COMPANY.
HE'LL JUST HAVE THE KID INHERIT DIRECTLY FROM HIMSELF.
DO YOU WANT HIM TO BE BEHIND IT?
WHY WOULDN'T THE CEO BE THE EVIL MASTERMIND BEHIND ALL THIS?
WHAT PROOF DO YOU HAVE OF THAT?
THAT'S NOT WHAT I MEAN... YOU WERE JUST SO SET ON THAT IDEA...
N-NO ...
BADUMP

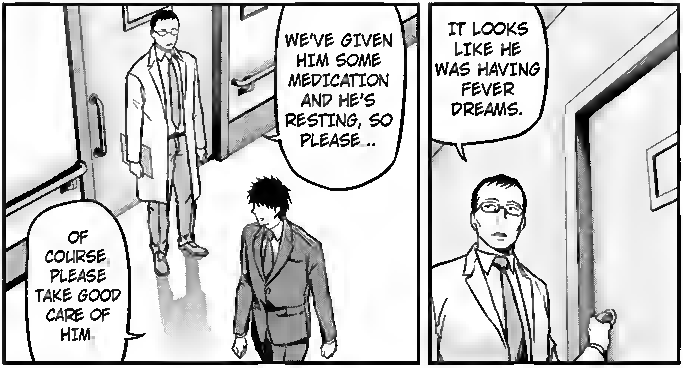
IF THE OLD MAN DID GET THE GANG TO DO THIS...
FROM WHAT I KNOW OF HIS CHARACTER, HE'D WANT TO SEE THE RESULTS FOR HIMSELF.
BOTH OF MY SUPPOSITIONS ARE SUPPORTED BY THE FACT THAT HE STILL HASN'T COME HERE TO SEE ME.
IF HE STILL SAW ME AS A CANDIDATE FOR HIS SUCCESSOR, HE'D COME TO SEE ME IN THAT CASE AS WELL.
IN OTHER WORDS ...
I'M NOT EVEN ON HIS RADAR.
WELL ...
AT THIS RATE, IT MEANS THAT MY AMBITION WILL END HERE.
Ha!

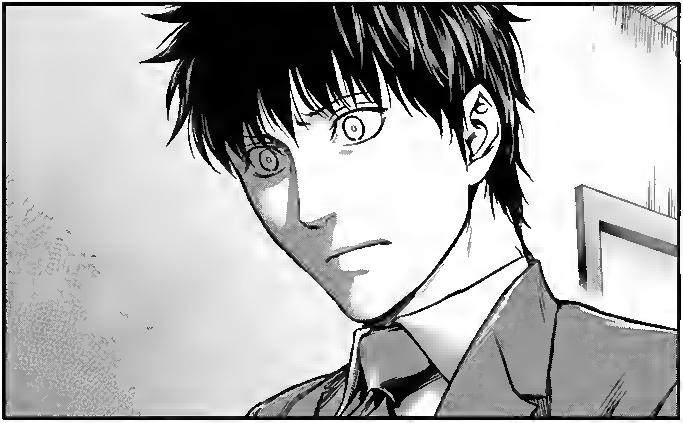
I COULD JUST MAKE MY DAD A DEAD MAN.
BUT I REALIZED THAT THERE'S STILL ONE MORE MEANS LEFT TO ME.
IT DOESN'T MATTER WHAT THE OLD MAN THINKS ABOUT ME.
IF YOU THINK ABOUT IT, IT'S QUITE SIMPLE.

NEITHER MY HALF-BROTHER NOR YOSHIDA MATTER.
MUTTER
KYOU-SUKE-SAN...
IF I ERASE HIM NOW, I'LL AUTO-MATICALLY BE HIS HEIR. THAT WOULD SOLVE EVERYTHING, RIGHT?
MUTTER
MUTTER


I HAVE TO HURRY, THOUGH... BEFORE HE LEAVES AN INCONVEN-IENT WILL...
KYOU-SUKE-SAN!
...
OH ...

UH... SORRY. FORGET WHAT I JUST SAID.
IT WAS A BAD JOKE.
...


WE'VE GIVEN HIM SOME MEDICATION AND HE'S RESTING, SO PLEASE..
OF COURSE PLEASE TAKE GOOD CARE OF HIM.
IT LOOKS LIKE HE WAS HAVING FEVER DREAMS.



YOU WENT TO VISIT KYOUSUKE-SAN IN THE HOSPITAL YESTERDAY, HUH, KUROKI-KUN?

HEH HEH... YOU'LL BE A LITTLE SUR-PRISED.
WHO WILL I BE MANAG-ING?
YES, SIR.
SINCE YOU WON'T BE GETTING ANY P.A. WORK RIGHT NOW, WE'LL HAVE YOU BE A MANAGER.
SIIIDE
YEAH... I GUESS THE RUMORS WERE TRUE ABOUT HER SIGNING A CONTRACT WITH US AND ENDING HER FREELANCE CAREER.
HEY... WAS THAT JUST...

I'M VERY PLEASED TO MEET YOU!
OUR NEW HIRE, KUROKI, WILL BE HELPING YOU AS ASSISTANT MANAGER IN ADDITION TO YOUR CHIEF MANAGER, FURUKAWA
YOU WILL HAVE TWO MANAGERS FROM NOW ON, SUGAI-SAN.
会議室
I GUESS I'VE GOT NO CHOICE BUT TO FOCUS ON THE JOB FOR A WHILE...
...BUT WOW! SHE'S EVEN MORE BEAUTIFUL IN PERSON THAN SHE IS ON TV!
FORMER B TV SPOKESWOMAN
MAKIKO SUGAI
ME TOO.

KUROKI GETS TO WORK WITH A BEAUTIFUL NEW WOMAN!...
ONE WITH THE AIR OF EROTICISM! SOUNDS LIKE A PRETTY SWEET GIG, RIGHT?!